

# CUPIDS MESSENGER,

DELIVERING SVNDRY  
excellent Letters.

A letter inviting his friend to write to him.

Though the want of your sweet society (my  
worthy friend) doe occasion to me all griefe,  
yet it lies in you even by the often mission  
of your desired Letters, to mitigate that  
griefe: And since the distance of place doth  
not permitte conference & small communicati-  
on, by the exchange and entercourse of our Letters supply  
that defect: And our Tongues cannot bee heard, let us be  
frequent in our writing, and let not the change of places  
alter our minds: Wherefore that you might not judge me  
neglectfull of our late passed amity, or oblidious of our old  
friendship, I will take my leave to visit you with this  
Letter, and entreate further to minde with this kind of  
writing my remembrance: I will to you all prosperous for-  
tunes as to my selfe, and continue my loue to you with all  
sincerity. But with the prolonge of my Letter grothe to the  
length of an Almanack, I set bounds to my writing, and  
remaine,

London, 1635. Yours in boundlesse affection,  
May the 20. 1635.

G.D.

# Cupids Messenger.

The answer.

A letter exculpatory for not writing.

I am afraid (judicious and kinde sir) that it is with me as it is with that unforntunate Pyrol who falls into the Gulfe of Scylla, while he indeauors to auoid the danger of Charibdis.

Incidit in Scyllam cupiens vitare Charybdim.

I confess I have receiuers Letters from you, and sparing by not answering all this while to conceale the crudel-  
nesse of my unpolished pen from the deeps discerning eye  
of your judgment, I doubt whether I haue not made ship-  
wrack of your good opinion, who haply imputes my silence  
but my neglect of your loue, or to my obliuion of your  
passed kindness: But I beseech you (kindest sir) to haue  
thus much confidence in my disposition, that no confused  
chase of cogitations, no fulnes of impovement, shal banish  
your remembrance out of my thoughts: though I haue ne-  
ver so busie I make answer to those I little regard, I dare  
scarce write to you (I am possessed with such a due rem-  
embrance of your worthinesse) when I am most at leisure.  
Yet finding in my selfe how farre greater a crime it is to  
neglect loue, then to lay open my imperfection to a well  
wishing friend, I haue chosen the latter to make tender of  
the former: wishing that as you equalize grane Nestor in  
wisedome, so you might parallel him in the longneuity of  
a happy life, I humbly surcease.

At your command, nothing

New castle,  
June 2. 1635.

E.K.



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A

# Cupids Messenger.

3

## A Letter to a friend vpon the death of his wife.

The acquaintance I had with your vertuous wife (honest friend) makes me fele the sense of her losse, for he that can be insensible of the losse of a good woman, is an alien to nature, and a rebell to all mortall vertue. I may truly say shee was pralise-worthy for her many good parts, but they were but good prouisions for the world to come.

Give me leaue to aske you why you mourne, I meane not why you mourne outwardly, which is an old custome and a matter of formality, but why you doe mourne inwardly, which is true sorrow: you will say (I say) for the losse of a companion. Indeed you doe well, for as a man was solitary before God gaue him one, so shal he be after God takes her away: but there is a mean in all things. To be harte hearted is beast like, to bee tender is esteminate, to be insensible is manly. As for you, you cannot offer a more acceptable sacrifice to the dead, then by turning the loue you bare her, into care of her children, to which I know you by nature so well inclined, that I neede not to instruct, but only remember you: but since wise men in sudden accidents and in cases concerning themselves are sometimes toiske, I am bold to advise you now, though henceforth I would be glad to be aduised by you: relling,

Your seruant,

Arthingworth,

July 7. 1635.

I.M.



A comfortable letter vpon the losse of a  
Husband.

Madam.

Though none knowes the balue of your losse, nor ficles  
the want so deeply as your selfe, yet I may take vpon  
me more feeling then another man, being soe the loue I  
bear you more sensible of your misfortune and affliction: I  
my selfe haue contributed many teares, and I confess  
there is great allowance of griefe for good wifes for the  
fatall departure of worthy husbands, but you were better  
forget the dead then the living, (your daughters I meane)  
to whom (I am opinionated) you would not wish so sad an  
increase as your death would bring them, which, bytts  
your course of matematring sorrow is too much hastened. ¶  
let not your vertue of patience dye before you, but so mag-  
nanimously behaue your selfe in your troubles, that your  
acquaintance may finde more cause to commend you, then  
to admise you, Madam I beseech you hold me to be

Your Honours friend.

Arthingworth.  
July 29. 1635.

W.M.

# Cupids Messenger.

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A Letter of griefe for his friends absence.

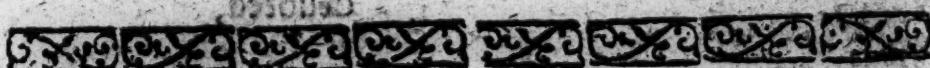
**O**f such comfortable vs is the familiaritie of a sweete companion, that those houres of our life seeme most happy which are passed away in the society of a friend: If we take a journey, his company is instead of Coach, theres not a thought, nor a word, of the tediousnesse of the way: If we abide at home, we imagine that the slyle of Time too spedily sweepes away the houres. But on the contrary, needs must his life be melancholike, that hath no friend to sharpe the slowe transicion of Time. I wish my owne experiance were not too true profe of hereof, for since your absence, sweetest friend, melancholy hath beene my concomitant, and your remembraunce my greatest comfort. And as the turtle pines away after the losse of his mate, so since your departure my bosome hath admitted no consolation. I request you by that interest which I have in your love, since in person I cannot: that I may see you in a Letter. Silence betwene absent friends inturres the tensity of an ioffictions and inciuell disposition. But I know you will vindicate your selfe from a staine of so abhorrant a nature. I rest,

Farndon.

Aug. 1635. Bsq. from 1635.

Yours unremovably.

I. C.



A letter for the entreaty of goodwill, To a  
young Gentlewoman.

**T**he long and considerate regard by which in depe contemplation I have eyed your most rare and singular vertues, ioyned with so admirable beauty, and much ple-

asing

## Cupids Messenger.

king condition, grasset in your person, hath moued me, good  
misstris E. B. among a number whom I know, entirely to  
faour you, earnestly to loue you, and therewith to offer  
my selfe unto you. Now howbeit I may happily seeme in  
some eyes, the least in worthinesse of a number that dayly  
frequent you, yet may you bouchsafe in your alone private  
to reckon me with the greatest in willingnesse. Wherein,  
is a settled and immoreable affection towards you, if ser-  
uent and assured loue, grounded vpon the vndercavable stay  
and prop of your vertues, if continual, nay rather inerter-  
minable loues, in all perpetuitie addicted unto your ser-  
vice, if never ceasing and tormenting griesse. Uncertainely  
caried by a hazardous expectatiō, closed in the circle of your  
gracious conceit, whether to bring vnto the eares of my  
soule a sweet murmur of life, or seuerē sentence of a present  
death, may ought at all preuaile, either to moue, entreate,  
sue, sollicite, or perswade you. I then am the man, who  
shining in my inward thoughts the dignities of so worthy  
a creature, and prising in deepest waight (thogh not so the  
uttermost value) the estimate of so incomparable a beauty,  
hauing resolued living to honor you, and dying never to serue  
other but you, from whose delicate looks expecting no worse  
acceptance, then may seeme answerable to so divine an ex-  
cellencie: I remaine,

January 20.

1635.

Your most passionate, loyall,  
and perpetually  
devoted,

E. R.

Her

# Cupids Messenger.

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## Her answer.

That men haue skill, and are by sundry commendable parts enabled to set forth their meanings, there nar- deth no other testimony then your present writing, your eloquence is farre beyond the reach of my poore wit, and the multiplicite of your praises fitter for a poeticall goddesse, then to the erection of any such deesse. For my part I shall hold them as the fancies & foyes of men, issuing from the weakest of their humors, and how far my selfe can deserve, none better then my selfe can conceiue. Being one of so good sort, as you are, I could doe no lesse then write againe vnto you, the rather to satisfie the importunitie of your messenger, wishing such a one to your lot, as might parago- nize those excellencies you write of, and answer every way to the substance of all those inestimable praises, so hoping your loue and your writing, (as I take it) bee best luted together.

Yours as farre as modesty  
will, to answer your  
courtesies

January 24. 1635.

E.B.

W:

Another

Another letter to his Mistresse,  
desiring her love.

Good mistres I. P. I am bold, though a stranger, to make these lines messengers at this present of my good meaning towards you; wherein I goe not about by pretence of a most entite and hearty god wil, which I profess to beare you, to make present surmise thereupon that on so bare an assertion you should immediately credit me, I prize your wchines at a farre greater value, and weigh your good allowance so much, as I onely desire by your favourable liking I may intreat to haue access unto you, not doubting but by being in your presence, I shall so sufficiently by apparent proue maintaine the efficaciy of that I now protest, and give you so good occasion to deeme well of me, as you shal haue no reason to repent you, that upon so honest and loving a request you haue condiscended to my entreaty: whose health and prosperity tendezing as mine owne, I send you with my Letter a token of that great affection I beare you, which I pray you most heartily to accept of, and weare for me. And ever so do continue,

Yours, if you please to  
accept of me.

.J. I.

R. M.

Her answer

Sir, your message is to me as strange as your self, Who  
are unto me a stranger, and what your good meaning  
unto me is, I knowe not; soz giving of credit unto your as-  
sertion, as you steue not to challenge it, so was I never  
hitherto of my selfe so hasty to doe it, haing oftentimes  
done caught, that of fairest spaches ensue the swoldest ac-  
tions;

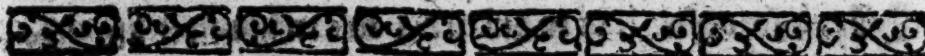
# Cupids Messenger.

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tions: I cannot condigne your purpose, because I intend the best of your dealings, and howbeit I am in no pointe so restrained, but that in all reasonable sort that may be, any accesse may be granted, so when you shall by farther notice sufficiently make apparant that with modell y I may do it. I shall be willing so far forth as my yeares and present being may minister occasion, in any thankfull requitall that may be, to yeld my selfe unto you. Till which time I return your token againe, and my hearty thanks unto you by this bearer.

Your friend as one unacquainted  
hitherto may be.

I.P.



To a beautious Lady upon  
long affection.

Fairest of Ladies.

**H**ow impossible it is to keepe heat from fire, being the very nature of the element, I referre to your best judgement, and how neare a spirit of that nature, is the loue of the heart kindled by the eye of beauty; I leauis to your kindnesse to consider: since then such is the force of true loue, as cannot be so smothered vp in silence, but that it must burst out into woordes and actions, either to gaine comfort, or to suffer death, pardon (fairest of beauties) that patient that in anguish seekes ease, & denie not your helpe in the excellency of the cure: your beauty both wounded me, your excellent features, your comely gesture; your sweet behaviour, haue all concured to make me unhappy, unless your hand helpe me, and though the hurt be more felt then stene, yet is it not deadly, if you be kind: loath I am to be a begger without deserte, and yet loue will stope a high spi-

## Cupids Messenger.

rit, which, by the bond of due honour hath sworne mee your  
true-servant: in which Title, vnder heauen, shall be my  
hearts greatest honor: and in the honor of whose fauour,  
shall be the height of my worlds happinesse: in hope where-  
of, praying to the highest Power in the heauens to blesse  
you with all felicity on earth, I rest:

Yours denoted, and not  
to be remoued.

P. E.

## Her answer.

**S**ir, how easie it is to quench a fire in his first kindling.  
Experiance can deliuer: in the vnderlitte of heats loue  
being not the least that is like to doe much hurt, I wish you  
to take order with your wits, lest it bring your braine to  
an ill temper: kindnesse without care may breed care with-  
out comfort. And therfore in placing of affection, bee not  
too far from discretion, lest the persuasion of selfe will bee  
an abuse of a better sense. If I haue skill in Physick, I  
would prescribe you helpe for your disease, but being a sim-  
ple woman, you must haue patience with my plaineesse,  
who not knowing how to doe you good, and unwilling to  
wyl you hurt, leaving you to a better Paradise then in the  
torment of an idle passion, I rest in what I may.

Yours as kindly as  
I finde cause.

A. N.

To

# Cupids Messenger.

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To a iudicious Gentlewoman.

Deare friend.

The forcible effect and conquest which your beautie hath wrought in my heart, constrained me in your kindnes to place the hope of my fortune: beseeching you so to equall your outward excellencie with an inward perfection, that faith may not haue feare of fauour, where humilitie shall guide the course of affection. I should esteeme of my selfe the most unhappy, if I should gaine your cares any distast by my suit, but if it light within the line of your liking, it shall begin the garden of my paradise: so vnder heauen seeking no other star, then the guide of your grace to lead my heart to the joy of my life: I rest, never to rest till I rest,

From Madrid.

Yours all, or mine owne  
nothing at all.

E. C.

Her answer

I Am sorry to shinke that a shadow of dull shoulde haue that force (in conceit) to rob reason of his contents: for beautie is but a shadow, which if your eye hath found in my face let it goe no further, leſt it doe wrong to my will in hurting your heart: my inside I hope is farre from disgrasing any good in my outside, and both altogether unhappy, if they haue bene any occasion of euill: but leſt I may ſeeme discontent either at the matter or manner of your writing, I discharge you of the burthen of that feare, by the kinde acceptance of your affection, which though I cannot answer as I would, yet, as in good reason I may, I will think and consider of, which if it fall out to your liking, bee not unfaithfull in your loue, in hope whereof I rest,

Yours wholly, if at all. A. B.

To

To a Lady, with whom he fell in loue, seeing her  
at a solemne Triumph.

When I saw you (excellent Lady) viewing the  
Triumph, looking upon your eyes, me thought  
Heauen opened to discover a greater glory, and Angells  
tylting there toke from my judgement all things else  
done out of that blessed compasse, but mine amazement  
became my death, and my death shall bee your Triumph,  
for how ever the conflict appeared, your glaunces (whitch  
were the wounding weapons, strucke through my weake  
sight, and slew my heart, thongh armed in the strongest  
sort of my besome: I am not so happy as to bee a prisoner  
(for there were hope) but so infortunate to die in despaire,  
that to haue the monument of my remembraunce erected in  
the Temple of your pittie, is the vtmost ayme my blisse  
looks to: the cruelty of faire ones hath pronounc't my judg-  
ment, and saith, it is impossible to affect where they haue  
not seene: Oh see me in this sorrowfull paper, (you fairest  
of adored beauties) and let that sight moue affection, affec-  
tion knowldege, knowldege pitty, and pitty that wroke of  
the highest, whitch is onely to doe miracles, so shall cruelty  
gine himselfe the lie, proue you a goddesse, and make me  
(the happiest of men) a trumpet of your reaowne and glory,  
My loue is like your godnesse without parallel, My faith  
shal go beyond that loue, and my seruice crowne both with  
an infinite merit. This is my sacrifice, whitch if you accept,  
(excellentest of faire beauties, and innobled with al rich per-  
fections) I live, if otherwise, my joy is, I perish by so excel-  
lent a creature,

From Dover  
June 9. 1635.

Prepared to suffer. I.S.  
I.S. (1) H. 1635

Her

# Cupids Messenger.

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Johns Hopkins University **Her Answer is in Mail or**  
in **Telephone** **or** **Telex**

Sir, he that of a light blow with the eye, makes a deadly wound of his heart, to either too unworthily faint, or much too superstitious in the signes and planetes: for mine owne part, my knowledge assures me I am free from any such malignant influence: I confesse a weake appetite unguarded with Judgement may oft stumble and receive that weakness the government of my fortune, were to rob my selfe of all good mens pitie. In my woorke mishances, the ills I cause not, reason cannot blame mee, if I cure not, since what is without mee nothing appertaines unto mee: but you will make my beauty guilty: powre nothing, hold pitifull art thou flaudred: which being a mere Chymera of imagination, hast not any thing in thee, but the strength of folly, and mans faring, it is not a substance, for then it might be feld, let loose by restrained, it hath no certaine shape, for then all men would like one figure, nor hath it any abiding, for then it woulde ever be sound in its owne maner: it is not compounded of perfyt colours, for then no man woulde sorte of mixt deuor nities, nor woulde it habbe of reall vertues; for then no man woulde wed with the vicious: to conclude, it is nothing hath hurt you, and that nothing I send to come your rachealle, shall not bray my repentance: your loue is too infinite, your faith too worthy, and your service too rich: a meaner proportion will guard safest a meane fortune, and so wishing your great sacrifice to a greater dietie, I rest, your son in godlye churche as churched of you, now am curiouslye in you Your best Counceller  
Canterbury

## Canterbury,

## Your best Counsellor

A.N.

## Yonkou

111

五

T

To his Mistris that was of wanton and of  
light cariage.

Because my bow of love (my sometimes dearly beloved  
Mistris) hath made me your friend, therefore the care  
of your honour shall make me your counsellor: whether it  
come seasonable or no, examine your heart, that it comes  
freely and with a wholesome intent, truth bee my witness.  
It is told mee(mistris) that your actions are publikely no-  
ted for their consumelious leuity, and your wanton light-  
nesse is so marked by your beholders, that contempt is be-  
come your onely companion: your apparell is like your  
minde, unconstant and uncomely, and drawes rather ad-  
miration then reverence: toyes are your studies, and vani-  
ties your practise, so that making your selfe a flame to plea-  
sure, you haue forgotten the violence of misfortune. If this  
bee true (my dearely beloved mistris) then in this I must  
perish, since living in you your least fault wondereth both mee  
and mine honour: I know you are faire and young, but if  
you cloath them here with vices, what will you weare in  
the grane but infamie: life runnes without feet, misfortune  
strikes without an alarme, and the glory of vanity breakes  
like a bubble, and leaues nothing behind but the print of  
disgraces: it is too much to bee euill once, for the euill is ne-  
uer forgotten, and it is too little not to bee ever good, since  
the smallest blot dashes all out of remembrance. Would I  
could as easily excuse you, as fame is apt to accuse you: par-  
don mee if I bee too bold in writing, it is urged by a too much  
boldnesse in action, the one made good, the other shall bee  
gracious beyond expession: till then give my pen leaue to  
keepe my heart from breaking.

Farndon.  
Apr. 1635.

Your grieved friend,

A.Z.

Her

Her Answer.

A Zeale that is kindled (my best servant) with the false fire of mens reports is rather held a superstition then an honest devotion: soz it both wrongs truth, and wounds an innocent reputation: and these light belieuers, which build faith on such weake grounds, deserve nothing but ignominie and contempt: if now you accuse my life in your absence, where was your judgement when I walke in your presence: Does not so false to the worth of your owne truth to say you could not see that which all the world hath discovered, or if you did, to bee so blinde to affect a thing unworthy: but it may be, absence hath begotten new thoughts, those thoughts new affection, and that affection must needs finde a new quarrell with old friendship: if it bee so, your owne course lead you, I freely confess I am not such a begger that can weare raggs, such a miser that can eate roots, nor so subtil to speake like a Ingler, with a rāde in my mouth, Truth I serue, frēdom I loue, and plainnesse is my condition. If these haue taſt you cannot relish, you must in some other ſoyle ſeke new comforts, for mine owne part I will bee no bondfame to opinion, till I know it conſtant, nor no ſervant of the time, till it bee incorrupt, and moſe honest. As for my life had it for every feather a wing, and my fortune doable ſo many hazards, yet will I bring the one to my grāne with honour, and make the other abhāmed with my ſufferance, I cert,

Maidſton: Your injured miftris.  
May.7.

D.P.

Ca

A

## A desperate Louer to his quondam Mistress.

I shall be vertue in you (fairest) to receive my despaires  
though you returne no comforts, and if in the reading  
you vouchsafe a sigh to my remembrance, it shall digne that  
shall make mee for euer sleepe in quiet, despaire long since  
gave mee judgement, and obedienc only shall make my  
death patient: It is necessary I write for you since fate de-  
nies mee to live with you, for my selfe is such an interposi-  
tion betwixt you and your glorie, that my grases would  
keepe much of your Sunne eclipsed: I know my wants,  
and that there is nothing either in my life or fortune to de-  
serve you, onely an infinit desire, which but by death can  
never be lessened, then since all things suit with my de-  
spaires, bee all delates (with your loue) ever far from me  
and let the world onely remember this in my Epitaph,  
that it was not my folly, but your will, not my despaire  
but truth in obedienc: But O this is that I should doe,  
not speake: and the mislike is more vblis for your eare,  
then your loue for my heart: pardon my fell late sorrow,  
it rather speaks things fit to be done, then done, and will  
sooner craue the glorie in wish than it action, and yet the pos-  
son of disoaime is so violent, I know well what me, and  
what me it shall, for my comforte is alreadie consumed:  
and in that consumption let all things but my memorie  
turne to its first Chaos: And solitudes hapie as I unfortu-  
nate:

Only in remembrance. (most) 18

Northampton.  
Septemb. 6.

F.I.

Hom

.Robin Her Answer. 1.1.A

How much I stand diuided with the unreasonablenes  
of your affection, my distracter writing may witness  
wherein I can obserue no order, because nothing in your  
desires holds good proportion, you bid me loue, and will not  
heare when destiny denies it; and you seeke that rule from  
me, which is quite taken out of my knowledge: (deare Sir)  
awaken up your first wisdome, and tye your actions on  
providence, then shall you see I haue lesse power to draw  
on mine, then you to withdraw your affection. Will you make  
beauty such a slave, that it must obey every gaze, or the  
poore owner so unfortunate, that she must bee seruile to the  
desire of any wilfull longing, then so, how much safer were  
it to be soule and fortunate: But you will dye, woes mee  
that folly should make you so impudent, to boast you dare  
bee a slave so damnable: But I know you will dye, but as  
actors dye, in one scene and renise in the next, to make it  
more glorious, thus to dye I allow you, and to such I will  
give a smile for pittie: to any other a charitable teare, to  
thinke that any Gentleman should become a traitor to  
Nature. Lastly, let me win you by the loue you boast of,  
nauer henceforth to sollicite me, for as no relife can come  
from such vaine labour, so nothing but greate visdaine will  
grow from my vexation: So hoping you will make that  
hope desparate, which is without all hope of vertue, I rest,  
yours etc affeclyng my selfe to you Red hilt on your side  
Rowe. March, 7.

P.C.

.Robin Her Answer.

C 3

W.A.

A

## Cupids Messenger.

A Letter of true kindness.

If dame Nature had bene pleased to haue made my bosome transparent, your eyes shold see the secrets of my bosome, which if it haue any happinesse in the world, it is in the hope of your fauour: but amazed with the admiracion of your worth, I know not what to say of your worthynesse, but onely this, that finding the due of your desert exceeding my capacittie in commendation, I will leauis the excellencie thereto to moze honourable inuention, and shinke to haue enough fauorable, if this prefer my service to your commandement: presents I haue none worth the sending, but the heart of my loue at your emploiment, which being nothing moze then what you will, I rest, everent and the same.

Your seruant:

W.W.

Her Answer.

If your speeches bee led by your thoughts, it is needless to desire a transparency in your bosome, for when as the heart and the tongue agree together, then mens protestations are followed with reall performance: words of confirmation trouble discretion, in construction, and eloquence in loue hath not the best commendation, inventions are ready where fancie is studious, but where wit is vertuous, there is will gracious: your present most worthy of all acceptance, cannot bee better requited then thankfully remembred, and if concernts make in a mutuall content, what comfort may follow, I leauis to the heauens fauour, and so I rest,

Your friend.

A.W.

A Letter of counsell from a discreet mother to  
her daughter newly maried.

My good daughter, thou art now going into the world,  
and must leue to bee a child, and learne to bee a mo-  
ther, and looke to a familie, rather then to the entertain-  
ment of a friend, and yet both necessarie, in their kindes:  
 finde she disposition of thy husband, and in any wise moue  
not his impatience, let thy kindenesse binde his loue, thy  
vertue his comfort, thy hushuerie his commendations:  
avoyd scylling Gossips, yet bee kinde to thy neighbours, and  
no stranger to thy kindred: bee gentle to thy servants, and  
not ouer familiar: haue an eye to thy doore, and a locke to  
thy chest: keepe a bosome for a begger, and a bone for a dogge:  
cherish the Bee that brings home honie, and make much of  
the Cocke that makes much of his Chickens, take heede  
abzoade of the Kite, and within of the Kat: pray to God for  
his blessings on all thy proceedings, and haue a religious  
care of thy modest government, and rather for charitie  
then praise, givē reliefē unto the poore: if at any time thou  
hast neede of any good I can doo theē, be assured whilst thou  
hast a mother thou hast a friend: so hoping in thy kindenesse,  
thou will take care of my counsell, beseeching God to blesse  
theē, that I may ever haue joy of theē, with my hearts loue,  
to his tuition I leauē theē.

Thy most loving mother.

R.S.

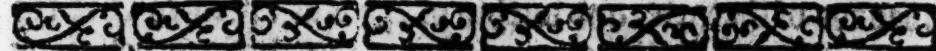
Her Answer.

My good Mother, I haue passed the yeares of a Childe  
and know the care of a mother & therfore for your  
kinde advise for my carriage I thankē you, and what benefit  
will be

I will make of your lessons, you shall finde in the fruit of my observation, I am but nev'ry come into the world, and God knowes when I shall goe out of it, and am yet scarce warme in my house, and therefore hardly know yet how to goe through it, For my husbands humour, if he alter not his nature, I doe not doubt but wee shall live as Doves, while care & kindnesse shall continue content: my servants shall finde mee both a mistris and friend, my neighbours no stranger, & idle Gossips no companion. This in the dutie of loue, with thankes for your motherly care, in prayer to the Almighty to blesse me with his grace, and to live no longer then in his loue and yours: I take my leaue, for this time, but rest during life,

Your most louing daughter

P.E.



A Letter in case of wrong supposed to  
be committed.

Sir, your letters more troublesome to my conceit, then  
I auouring (as I am credibly led to thinke) of that your  
wonted most noble disposition vnto mee, I haue receiued.  
With what supposition and vnaccustomed griefe I haue  
retained them, I referre to any one (guiltlesse accused and  
suspended from so high fauours, as formerly by your bound-  
tie to me haue beene performed) simply to bee conjectured.  
Long was it ere I could satisfie my selfe by any accesse  
that might bee, to profer my selfe or these humbles Letters  
vnto you, yet neverthelesse weighing how farre different,  
those new occurrents were from those your ancient fauors,  
I surmised with my selfe, that the iugement proceeded  
solely from others, hardly perhance bearing those graces  
wherein

wherein I stood with you, and becomming therepon my  
bitter enemies, the sinfull devils wherof stood vpon me  
wholly to overthow or impagine. For which having no  
other or better meane at this time then these submissiue  
lines, I purpose them unto you as sollicitors of your former  
liking, confessing if in any waies I haue erred vnto you,  
as I will not vnto seckde my selfe from every errore, it  
was but as a young man rather by ignorance then of ma-  
lice any way to be intended: as touching any other objecti-  
on, let me but crave pardon to haue access vnto your pre-  
sence, and then judge as you finde me: two waies are onely  
left: my accusers to my face, or mine owne simplicitie to  
cleare me. This is all I require, and so much I hope you  
will not denie me: wherewith resting with due acknowledg-  
ment of that your former bonnie, I humblye forcease, this  
15. of December, 1635.

Yours to command.

John Bellamy to G. Vernon. No. 2. continuing to his  
owne selfe verry ouerre chayre, vnto which hee shal haue  
no reserue. And so Ie will saye in a word, Ie haue  
vnto you, and to your selfe, a good and honest  
signature.



A letter from a seruant to his master.

Sir, my humble duty remembred vnto you, and to my  
good misris. You may please to understand that I haue  
dispatcht the busnesse vnto Master C, for the monie you  
sent mee for, and haue ginen him an acquittance for the  
same, and according to your good remembrance vnto me,  
I haue bought for you twelue gallons of the best Hacke,  
and eightene gallons of Claret, and fiftene yards of fine  
Broad-cloth, and thirtie ells of fine Holland, all which I  
hope by Gods grace shall come vnto your hands: I haue  
sent you also here inclosed your Bill of parcels, and their  
seuerall prises.

I wrote formerly unto you say certain commodities out of the Country, which I have now received by the Cartier. Here is at this present small newes worth the writing unto you: wherefore praying unto Almighty God for the health and prosperitie of you and all yours, I humbly take my leane, and rest,

Your faichfull and ready ser-  
vant to command,

ANTHONIE CLOPPETT of ADDING C.R. I.P.  
GLOUCESTERSHIRE Q.C. 1581



An answer of a Letter for courtesie  
and fauour received.

My good friend M. C. how much I am bound unto you for a multitude of fauours, and especially for that you have made chiose of mee, as to write your kinde and friendly Letters in my behalfe, I can no other waies expresse, then to continue your affectionate poore friend, and will for euer acknowledge it, as of your great kindnes beyond any merit of mine owne, and as by duty I am bound, no day shall passe me that I will not pray to God for your health and prosperitie, and the redoubling of your dayes: beseeching you to excuse me in that in person I cannot doe as performe what I desire, by reason at this time some hast extraordinary will not permit me. I therefore most humbly take my leane of you, this 14. of May

Your affectionate poore  
friend

P.C.

The

## The fathers Letter against the Sonne.

The sight of your Letters & message received by your seruants, have (good Cousen) breid to mee in perusing and hearkning vnto the same no small matter of disquiet: not that your Letters or messages for themselves are or haue borne at any time ill welcome to my hands, but in respect of him for whom they come, so filled haue I been long since with the euills by him committed. I am nothing ignorant that of mēre loue and good will you framed your speech vnto me in the behalfe of my vngratefull Sonne, I haue brought him vp to a mans estate: how likewise I sought both with maintenance & place of credit to continue him as a Gentleman, I placed him with a right godly and worshipfull Knight Sir T.H. who for my sake loued him, and I know tooke paines to reforme him. Complaints were infinite against him. This man could not be quiet for him, that mans seruants he misused; this party hee deceived, and others highly wronged. Since which, (too much to bee reuealed) how stubbornly in mine owne house, how injuriously amongst my owne people hath hee behaued himselfe. And because it was against Chritmas, and I would not dismisse him vnsurnished, I gaue him for himselfe and his man, a couple of godd Geldings, and twenty pound in his purse: he was no sooner gone twentie miles, but spent his money at Cards and Dice, pawned his apparell, sold his Geldings, and in the end comming to one of my Tenants to borrow money, which he denied to lend him, he fell vpon him and beat him. Thus (louing Cousen) you see in part his ill led life, and may thereby conceiue my griefe: sending in the meane time my commendations and earnest thankes for your care of my welbeing, to you and your bedfellow. This 20. Aug. 1635.

T.R.

D 2

The

## The Answer.

I haue received your letter (my kinde uncle) in answer to the last letter I sent, which was the busynesse of your son. I am very sorry that a Gentleman of your grauity & knowledge in the world, and soe the good estimation that the country hath of you, that Master E.C. your sonne, shoule deale so unkindly with you. I know your faterly care of him from time to time, and how diligent, and not sparing any cost in bringing him vp, & to place him with a Gentleman of the best ranke in all the country: it was nobly done, yet withall you might (if so you please) doe well to consider hee is your alone sonne, and if you looke into your alone youth, you shall finde these were your youthfull straines, and so much the more to bee borne withall, and time and age will tame all these things in an ingenious and witty Gentleman. I desire you for my sake retain him kindly im-  
to your fasson this once more, for he hath (by the reputa-  
tion of a Gentleman) promised never to doe the like enor-  
mities, but to live as a most dutifull and loving sonne: and  
for the same I dars passe my credit. I pray you entertaine  
him respectuely, and I will ever remaine,

Your loving kinsman.

T.F.

To

2 G

To his mistris (quondam) having spent al this time  
in loue, and meanes vpon her in prosperite, he fynally  
being imprisond she for to th eare of him  
forgets him: and then forsakes him. yet remayneth al  
the day: alredy to sayng her shal be greate for her

My paper were made of the skins of cruking Toades,  
Or speckled Adders, my inke of the blood of Scorpions,  
my pen pluckt from the Scraeth-owles wings, they were  
but fit instruments to write vnto thee, that art more vene-  
mous, more poisonous, more ominous, then the worst of  
these: for doe but descend into the depth of thy guiltie con-  
science, and see with how many vobes, promises, and deepe  
protestations, nay milion of oathes hast thou sworne thy  
fidelite to mee, which one day will witness against  
thee. If I should speake with the boice of Handjakes, or  
as low as the noise of the Summers thunder, yet could I  
not proclaim unto the world thy infinite baseresses, I  
being so firme and constant vnto thee; when I swamme in  
the golden floodes of prosperite, then wast thou (as ofte  
thou diest protest) firme and constant vnto me: But when  
the water began to ebbe, and my shyp run on ground, then  
(like thy selfe) then forsoothest me. At first thy loue was as  
hot to me, as an Italian to a wench of fisterne, but when  
my gold was spent and consumed, then thy loue grew as  
cold to me, as a Fishmongers fingers are in a great frost.  
Doe not thinke I write this vnto thee to bee a meanes to  
helpe me in this my great distresse and imprisonment: for  
knowe thou though all my friends haue forsaken mee, nay  
though death, griefe, affliction, and all the miseries that  
possibly can befall a miserable man in this wretched wold  
while he liues here, and all these grieves doe every minute  
torment me, yet I had rather fall by their force, then rise  
by thy assistance: so hatefull, so grievous, so loathsome, so  
lepidous, and so incomparably abominable is thy very name  
vnto me. (In saying whiche one shal be fayre may fayre)

Leprosse compared to thāe, is all healty: and all manner of infestation but a flea-biting: and all manner of diseases, though they were fetcht from twenty Hospitals, were but like the fit of an Ague: for thou art all Leprosse, all diseases, for neither thy bodie nor thy soule are fre: thy bodie, from the disease of shame and disgrace of the world: nor thy soule fre from the sicknesse of sinnes. God amend and pardon the boordre of the author of this boordre to

Once thy friend.

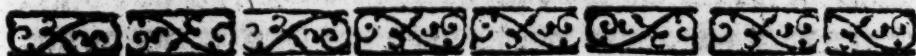
To his friend lying long sicke.

My worthy friend Master Prince: though the distancess of place be such, that wee cannot heare one another, you in the center of the kingdome (London) I at Yorke, yet you shall see me in my Letters: my tongue, my penne, my heart, are all your servants. You plainly perceiue a long lingeing sicknesse wil draw you to a long desir'd rest, where long your minde hath had his residence. You now perceiue, Faine is but a smoak, metals but dross, pleasures but a pill in sugar. All these earthly delights if they were sound, how short they are, lasting every day: they are but as a good day betwixt two Agues, or like Sodome Apples, faire red out sides, being handled are blacke dust. I admire the faith of Moses, but presupposing his faith, I wonder not at his choyse, that he preferred the affliction of Israell to the pleasures of Egypt, and chose rather to eate the Lambe with sours herbs, then all their flesh-pots. That God hath given you a vertuous wife, dutifull Children, wealth in abundance, an honest esteme and a godly repute amongst your neighbours and the generall loue of your countrey

country where you live, are sanoors that looke for thanks: who would desire to live, that knowes his Saviour died: who can be a Christian and would not bee like him? would you bee happy & not die? indeed Nature knowes not what she would have. Our friends of this world can neither abide vs miserable in our stay, nor happy in our departure. What God hath giuen you on earth, is nothing to that he will giue you in heauen: you are a stranger here: there at home. There Saints and Angells shall applaud you, there God himselfe will fill you with himselfe: haue patience in all afflictions, and reade the troubles of Job, and in that exercise your selfe both day and night, vntill God shall either mende or end these your dayes on earth. To which great God and mercifull Lord I commit you, praying for your eternall rest.

Remaining your friend.

I.M.



A Letter wherein is recommended to a Nobleman  
from his inferiour, the conditions and  
behauour of a person.

Myt please your Lordship, this gentlemā the bearer  
hereof, with whom a long time I haue beene acquain-  
ted, and of his qualities and god behaviour haue sound  
and large experimēt, haing beene a god tyme a suter vnto  
me, to moue his preferment vnto your Lordshys seruice:  
I haue now at last condescended vnto, as well soz that I  
know your Lordship to bee now presently disfurnished of  
such a one, as also that there will hardly be preferred vpon  
the sudden any one so meet as himselfe to supply that place.  
And thus much by your pardon and allowance dare I as-  
sure

sure unto you, that if it may please you in credit of my simple knowledge and opinion so imploy him, you shall finde that besides her is in parentage descended from such of whom I know your Lordship will very well account of, he is also learned, discreet, sober, wise, and moderate in all his actions, of great secretes, assured trust, and well goner ned in all companies. Finally, a man so meet and to this present turns so apt and necessary as I cannot easily imagine how you may bee served better. Pleaseth your Lordship the rather, for the great good will I bear him, and humble dutie I owe unto you, to accept, imploy, and account of him, I nothing doubt but your Lordship having by such meanes given credit to my choise, shall finde him such, as for whose good service, you shall have further occasion to thinke well of me for him, wheresof nothing doubt, ting I doe referre both him and my selfe, in all humblenes to your best and most favourablae opinion. From my house in Arthingworth this 5. of June.

## The Answer.

**A**fter my hearty commendations unto you. Since the receipt of your last letters and commendations of W.R. unto my service, I haue had small occasion either to write or to send unto you till this present: and for as much as vpon your certain notice delivred unto me in favour of his preferment, I held my selfe so well assured in all things of his behaviour, as I doubted not therupon to receive him into place of greatest fidelity. I haue thought good hereby to let you understand, what great pleasure I haue taken in his diligent attendance, assuring you, for many unspotted qualities, which I haue proued to be in him, and that with so good affection, as that I intend not to omit any thing that may tend to his advancement. In beholding of him oftentimes, we thinke he many images doth resemble his father, whose seemd truth I doe suppose might haue entertained

tertained with the best for his well deserving: this bearer shall informe you of two speciall causes concerning my affaires in the country, to whom I do pray you to conferre with and to afford him your trauell for his preset dispatch, which I will not fail heartily to requite unto you. For your care had of my wants, and diligent supply of such a one, I doe many times thanke you. And even so I bid you heartily farewell.

From the Court this 5. of  
May, 1635.



## A merry Letter to his friend in London

Heroicall spirit:

I haue receivied your Epistle of alacritie, and remaine much indebted to your kinde heart for vouchsafing vs poore country Swaines so much of the labour of your pen to deceiue slow-footed time withall: Thankes unto the Almighty, I haue had my health indifferent well since my comming downe, onely the separation of my second selfe hath beene a continuall sicknesse unto me: to remedy which I haue hitherto founde out no better way then to call for a cup of Rubicular, to helpe to exhilarate and corroborate my fatigated spirits. The Ruricolars are very barren of any novelty, worthy the presenting to your curios understanding, but doe presume out of the bundle of your affection that you that liue at the wels head will be pleased to vouchsafe vs your poore friends a report by your Letters, at least of such Exchange newes as passeth currant amongst you, which we shall take as a speciall favour from you, and study how to remunerate. We are at this present putting foot into the stirrop, and riding some dozen horse of vs to a maritime coast, where there wil be provided for vs al the rari-

## Cupids Messenger.

ties for fift the Dea can afford, where I will not bee vn-  
mindfull to remember all your healths in a full ocean. In  
the meane time conmemoring my loue to my loving sister  
your wife, with your worthy selfe and all our friends, I  
wishes you all true happinesse suitable to a brane disposition,  
and will ever rest,

Your assured louing  
Brother.

R.S.



## A Letter gratulatorie.

Good Mr. P.

I Am yet to learne the phrase and method how to write to  
so beneficent a friend as your selfe, to whom I stand  
obliged more by deserpt then I can answer with requitall,  
and more in affection then I am able to merit: a predica-  
ment it is into which I am castle and often (as it were)  
precipitated, & out of which to raise my selfe, fortune only  
hath disabled me, who if with your gifts she had supplied my  
wants, and given mee competent wealth to the freedom of  
my will, my honest heart shold not be debtor to the hand  
of any, nor shold my infabilitie curbe the scope of my af-  
fection: but seeing wishes are but vaine, I pray you accept  
these my lines as tokenes of the remuneratiō of my thankes  
and the acknowledgement of the issue of

You humble seruante

D.R.

With your usual carefull and gloriefull hand may, and holding my pen  
I engag'd her to write **A Letter to his silent friend**.

**Y**OU are happily innocent (dearest friend) what pains  
I am in, and with what unrest I spend my irksome  
days, through your parcimoniousnesse, and sparing of a  
little inke and paper: Is it not enough that I am deprived  
of your sight, but I must be also unsaluted by your Letters?  
one of them alone doth too weightily oppresse me with sor-  
row, and overhelme my heart with disquietnesse. As  
place hath wrought a separation betwene our bodies, will  
you permit also that a few dayes absence shall burie each  
others remembrance in the Lett'yan waves of obliuion,  
oh be not so inquisitiv unto sacred friendship, which is the  
greatest ioy allotted unto mortal men in all the universe:  
I have got the start of you in writing, but I hope I shall  
not need to send you any more expostulatory Letters for  
your slacknesse in this kinde. For the sound waves of my bo-  
die I am well, yet I cannot be said to be perfectly well, be-  
ing (as I am) so solicitous for your welfare, and so igno-  
rant of your health, who are *Anima dimidium meæ*.

Farewell,

*Anima dimidium meæ*:

B.M.

The Answer, excusing his not writing.

**L**et the multitude of my busynesses and my want of be-  
dily health, and debility, plead my excuse with you for  
my remissenes in writing. The drift of these present lines  
is to apologize for that I writ to you no sooner, and to en-  
quire of your health and welfare. Compare not, nor do not  
think my loue as little as my writing, for I protest verat-  
uely, that if I may stead you in any kind, or if thy means  
can procure any thing to make a clearer manifestation of

## Cupids Messenger.

my manifold loue, you shall assuredly find whensoeuer any occasion shal offer it selfe to you to make tryall what great interest you haue in me and my best affection, I cease, euer resting

angul (as in flared) insanni vliquantur  
vnto you chace & cleare Yours to my power.

W.W.

## A letter expostulatory for breach of promise.

I had haue more honestie in you to haue giuen mee a speedy denial, then not to perorme what you so constant-  
ly promised me, for then you had not iniured mee, because  
you had not owed mee any thing. Promise is debt: for I  
yet hope you are none of the number of those men who  
thinke promises doe not bind them vnto performance: this  
is my beliefe of you yet, it is in your power to make mee  
hold so alter my opinion. I onely desire thus much of you,  
if you will not doe mee that good turne, yet leauing doing mee  
injuries: sed mee not with improfident wordes, but bid mee  
not trust any longer to naine hopes. In briefe, you shall  
much oblige me by doing that kindnesse, by omission there-  
of you shall make me muse at the lacke of your fidelity and  
at your carelesenesse to incur the report and infamy of a  
dishonest man.

Your iniured friend.

H.G.

## To his friend faine to pouertie.

If your wealth had binne the foundation of my loue, I  
should now cease to loue, because you are no longer rich,  
but

But shold I now so erre, I shold shew my selfe to haue  
beene unto you in your prosperitie not a friend, but (like  
vnto the rest, that haue dereliquished you in your peuer-  
ty) a mere flatterer: we see how during the Summer time  
the Swallowes flocke to our houses, we may obserue how  
Mice will be sure to get into the barns, that is replenished  
with corne; and while the pot hath any honyn it is hard ke-  
eping the flies away: but rare is the friendship which fleets  
not in the probation time of aduersitie. Besides that poore  
comfort of aduersity, pittie, I lend you the summe of twentie  
pounds, which so long make vse of, till Time, the mother  
of mutations, encrease your stoor with a proportionable  
to make repayment to

Your friend to his  
ability.

I.R.



A Letter of a Gentlewoman to a Gentleman with  
whom she fell in loue.

If ever I could wish my selfe unborne (most worthy sir)  
Or my well being taken from mee, I call truth and my  
sometimes modesty to witnesse, it is now: not that I haue  
found you, but that I am forced thus to seeke you. Call to  
minde (faire, and I hope vertuous Sir) some horrid and  
violent women, taken with the loue of their owne fathers,  
as was Mirha: or incestuously pursuing their neareſt bro-  
ther, as was Biblis: so my affection will appeare moſe mo-  
dest, and my faults moſe pardonable: I dearely loue you,  
(and in ſo ſaying me thinkes the gods bluſh to heare me,) X  
who in the strictest lawes of deſire is moſt worthy to be  
loued, whose vertues might inflame a punne, and excel-  
lentell.

## Cupids Messenger.

lentest qualities take the most retire: If I hate (as I  
know too well I hate) contrarie to the nature and custome  
of Virgins, ouer-shot my selfe in my violent passions, par-  
don her that has rather die then make it knowne, yet chas-  
seth rather to make it knowne, then not enjoy you so de-  
red, and farre more worthy to bee desired. If you were ac-  
quainted what afflictions I suffer in my disconerte, yet fea-  
ring all will not serue, you will, I hope, rather incline to  
pitie, then disaine: little will the death of a silly mayden  
auail the triuumph of your beaultie, and she ouerthrow of  
my credit lesse benefit your vertue. Raise me from the one  
by your loue, & assur me from the other by your secretie:  
whilst I will ever remaine a most constant votariesse of  
all your perfections, blessing the parents that left behind  
them such an issue.

Althorp. May 22.

Neuer lesse her owne.

R.D.

## His Answer.

**H**ow happie may I thinke my selfe (sweetest of crea-  
tures, & beantifullest of women) that having bound  
my selfe in the soareh and pursuite of a jewell, haue it now  
offered & given into my hands, farre aboue my expectation;  
far transcending my hopes; I accept it as louingly, as you  
freely beshow it, and will account it vs lesse deare and pre-  
cious, then if much time and long labour had beme the pur-  
chase of it, esteeming it a blessing throning vpon me, by the  
appointement of the highest, and, suitable to my happie  
desires. Nor shall I needs to load my memorie with those  
horrid examples, to gine your loue a frer & wel comer pas-  
sage into the very depth of my loue and choysefull desires: to  
loue we were made, and by loue we are made: they anely  
are without being that haue not the heavenly taste and en-  
joying

sayng of it, I onely denie those excellencies which you lay to my vngilty charge, it was the reflection of your owne worth (strucken from me) which hath Narcissus like so in amoured you, it was your owne image shovne in my eyes, which hath thus captivated you: which since you like in so dim and dull a myrrour, I will cherish, and make much of it only for your sake, that you may the perfectlier see your selfe, and the more loue me for your loue, take all I am; for my secretes, I will not breathe it to my selfe how I attaine this happynesse, but living and dying, rest the true honou-  
rer and admirer of your worth and vertus,

Yours more then his owne.

H.H.

A letter from a Chapman in the Country to a  
Tradesman in London.

My loving and kinde friend M.G. you haue done mee  
much wrong in detaining the wares I wrot for: I  
haue disappointed some Gentlemen in relying upon you,  
whose custome hath much advantaged mee: my credit I  
hope will ever bee aboue that value: and my dealing for  
much more yearly betweene vs might without other cir-  
cumstances therein haue satisfied you: I mast tell you  
plaine, in the Country there are many good men, whose  
states are knowne very sufficient, which cannot raise mo-  
ney upon their credit in an instant: we want a common  
banke with vs which might furnish vs suddenly and tho-  
rowly: Walkers trade not here, nor Usurers take their  
place, but in Summer for their recreation: thinke, (friend)  
me an honest man, and so you haue much cause to thinke:  
confident in which, though my estate were brittle, (as I  
thankes:

thankes god) I know it is so: you may bee assured, I will never faile no: to deceiue you. I roue not beyond my compasse, neither make a faire foundation out of other mens ruines, but content with a little, leaving a blessing to my children, and good memoerie amongst my neigbours. Let me heare from you concerning the cause of this breach, and a note of the reck oning betweens vs, which I will make even, and rather rest honest then rich.

Your true friend as you  
shall vse me.

L.M.

The Answer.

**M**aster M. truly it much grieues me you were so disappointed, and the negligence of my man went not away unpunished, by whose default the Carrier went without them: belue me on my word, and I account my selfe happier in being a master of that, then in much riches, no feare of payment, nor least doubt of your estate was any hinderance to it: I have well knowne you by others, & have had so much exerience of you my selfe, that you shall sooner want occasion for wares, then I confidence to trust you: your neighbours speake much good of you, and all men that know you give you a faire report, which makes me happy both in your custome and friendship. If straifer occasions shall at any time happen (as while we are here they are incident vnto vs) I shall rather pittie your fortunes then call in question your faire dealings. And know we are all men accountable every instant for all our possessions. The Carrier this weeke brings those contraydities, and better and more vendible you never had of me: and I verily believe the Gentlemen will think themselves happily repaid in the stay with the exceeding goodnes & lastingnes of the wares.

Foz

# Cupids Messenger. 37

For your reckonings, at moxe leisure I will peruse & send them, in whose place receive my kind commendations, and entreaty for my mans carelesnesse, I bid you most heartily farewell.

Your friend as you know.

I.G.

## A Letter of thankfulness for kindness shewed to his Sonne.

**S**I K, the fauours you have already done me, are of such effect and merit, that I shall never bee at quiet untill I have made some requitall of them. I am ashamed you shold bee thys continually troubled with a sonne of mine, whom I have charged to obey you in all things as my selfe, and I pray you doe so much as have a carefull hand ouer him, as if you were his father, or her your onely child: I kindly and hartily thanke you for the apparell you have made him lately, which is decent, comely, and profitable, and the money you have paid for him, you may accommode him with the rest if you thinks it fittinge: for my part I give you all power and authoritie ouer him, seeing you are pleased to take the trouble vpon you. So wishing but to make with some good occasion that may lie in my poore power, to acknowledge how much I am beholding vnto you, I for this time commit you to the protection of the Almighty. Resting

Your assured louing

friend.

D.B.

The

## The answer.

After B. I haue received your Letter concerning your son. Sir, for any favour I can doe you, either in this or any other, I shall be right willing, knowing how much from time to time I and mine are bounden vnto you. And assure your selfe it shall bee no trouble vnto mee to vse the best of my counsell and care ouer him. For his apparell, it will keepe him warme, I know, which is the principall thing I ay me at, & I hope pleasing to him and his friends. The other mony I shall deliuer him as I shall see good both for himselfe to vse, and the credit of you his father. Moreouer (Sir) he is to me very dutifull and louing, by which he shall lose nothing in my care of his welfare, & he very well spends his time at Schoole, and to good purpose I hope: whereth I doubt not you shall haue great comfort. He behaueth himselfe so well by his good demeanour to all, that he is generally beloved of all my neighbours. For my power and authoritie ouer him, I wil imploy my selfe only for his good, and your fatherly care committed to me. And so with a thousand commendacions I commit you to God.

Your friend,

I.D.

A Letter to his Mistris in the country that desired newes from the Citie.

My excellent mistris, your command (which is to me a law) binds me to obey you, and though the taske bee infinite hard to containe for to eat a beast in so little paper, yet for your satisfaction, I will delineate to life the proportion

proportion of some of his members. It is newe you desire  
 & belue me (faire one) since I came into the City, I haue  
 not seene or heard any thing old; even from the Capitoll,  
 to the Cottage, all things are in their new garments, the  
 Court hath new favourites, the Citie a new Senate, and  
 the common wealth new officers: the first are as great as  
 good, the second are as rich as wise, and the third as aye-  
 full as just, Men are new, for where they shoulde loue they  
 feare, women are new, for where they shoulde honour they  
 subdue, and children are new, for where they shoulde reu-  
 erence they astonish. Customes and manners are new, so  
 the poore daily feede the rich, the rich cozen the great, and  
 the great make fooles of the good ones. The fashions  
 though they were never old, are now newer then ever,  
 for in man or woman there is not a poynct to chuse betwixt  
 the sexes, the one hath descended so much downward, and  
 the other ascended so much upward, that met in one circle,  
 they are both now trussed up together without difference:  
 Apparell that was made to couer, is now made to discouer  
 folly and leuwesse, and they are finell that are neare to  
 the naked anatomie: Discourse is new, for wisemen talke  
 of their wealth, learned men of their deceit, and great men  
 of vanitie, Old men like old Wolves boast of their preyes  
 past, middle age like Lyons talke of that which is in their  
 powers, & children like doggs bark of the reuenges which  
 shall bes: our Citizens like Asses are proud of riche bur-  
 thens, and like Apes, toy in pyde trapping, and our gal-  
 lants like Bére-brewers horses bragge how much drinke  
 they can carry. To conclude, all things are somew, that  
 enen vertue her selfe is despised in old garments; and he  
 that keepeth any phrase of his foreshathers, is but a rude  
 speaker, se to say Hic mulier, is now the purest and truest  
 Latine. Thus (my deare Mistris) you haue the newell  
 Paines of the season, which I wylle rather to keepe you in  
 your old way of vertue, then to lose your selfe in the folly  
 of imitation, I know your goodness, and how true a re-

warter it is of its owne merites, reliе upon it euē, it will make your end happy and my life fortunate, that am the servant of so great a perfection.

T.W.

Her Answer.

**Y**Du haue sent me (worthy servant) my desire back with so great an interell, that I stand two wayes fearefull how to receive it, either to incurre the suspition of too greedy an inquiry, or the envy of a weake nature, that is pleased with detraction: for both whitch I am free, in as much as my aymes is held within the leuell of modesty. I confesse, the parts you haue ginea me may belong to a beast, or rather a Painter, for the shape hath little proportion: yet I haue heard of excellent Painters which haue made curios pieces of perspective, that beheld with a liberall eye on the plaine Table, haue appeared ugly & most deformed, but the sight strained and drawne into a more slender & narrow compasse, it hath beene beautifull, and in the glory of the best perfection: such, I feare, was the picture from whom you tooke your copie, and looking upon it the wrong way, you saw the lites, but not the beautie. I doe confesse, the world is old, yet not so old but I may continue to weare out many new garments. Age makes it subject to sicknes & infirmitie, and what better defensē then warme and sound cloathing: Sicknesse brings corruption, and ill sanours, what better paoerion then much shift and many new things: so that I conclude, these trouies which you dislike are but to cure something in the world that is knwholesome. Again I haue foun an Italian Comedy, consisting of a lover, a woman, a yong or soleyn a boor, & to it I may assigne the prolo, for that the stage, the people the actors, each degree haue their yong and their boor: yea if the yong will steale his masters apparell, and make hystorne vice & vertue no

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difference, blame not the discretion of the master, if it de-  
rive new fashions, till either the foolish <sup>3</sup> any be tryed, or the  
devill for his pride fetch him away, and conclude the enter-  
lude. This (my best servant) you may apply at your plea-  
sure, for mine innocencie hath taught mee that charity, not  
to accuse any of that crime I would not my selfe bee guilty,  
nor is my defence and argument to draw on your silence:  
but rather a motine to make you more liberall, in bestowing  
on me the rest of your collections: in which doubt not  
my constancy, since no enchantments can make me forget  
to preserue my selfe ever worthy to be your Mistris.

M.S.

## A wooing and comfortable Letter to a noble widow that had newly lost her husband.

**T**hough (my noble widow) I am the last that send you  
comfort, yet was I the first that fel your anguish, and  
will be the readiest of all men to serue you in your trouble:  
you haue lost a dearly desired husband, & found an infinite  
way to grieve, the one is the act of Nature, & cannot be pre-  
vented, the other is the worke of Nature, and by wisedome  
must be corrected: Remember (faire Widow) who is gone  
(a good man) to whom he is gone (to a good God) and from  
whom (from the wicked World, and worse people) and  
you shall find more cause to praise heauen for his happiness,  
then to murmur for your losse of comfort: a good man dies  
so line, theres your ioy, an ill man lives to die, theres true  
anguish, : the ioyes of marriage should be writ in Table-  
booke, not upon paper, that Widowers might blot and  
rubbe out the writing, for they ought not to remember the  
delights past, but to meditate on pleasure to come, not to  
marry for eternitie, but during the will of heauen, neither

hauie you lost any thing, for hee was but a treasure lent you, and to grieue at the repaiment were to wrong your goodnesse with ingratitude. Beloue mee Madame, were your care in my hands, as your grieue is at my heart, neither should your anguish hurt you nor the memorie of your losse seruine a moment, but it is in heauen and your wisedome, couple them together by yelding to prouidence; and you shall see your comforts flow vpon you in a new tyde, you haue reputed me your friend, and shapred your best actions by my counsels, you were never more weake then now because alone, nor did you euer stand in more neede, because many assaults are prepared against you: to keepe you then in perfect safetie, please you make mee of a tryed friend, a true husband, of a faithfull counseller, a profitable Ruler, and of an able helpe a devout seruant, I doubt not but you shall finde that armes against all necessities, which shall both guard you against injuries, and bring you much honour, my character you know best, for I am no stranger, and my zeale you may judge by my former seruices, if they appeare faultlesse before you, there will be noe let but ceremony, which to countenance against vertue, were to bee guilty of soule superstition: you are wise, and that wisedome I make my aduocate, if he approue me worthy to bee yours, my faith shall make mee your truest servant among the living.

F.R.

Her answer.

**S**I R, had the comfort you sent me come in a true wed-  
ding garment, pure and one intre sasse? I could not  
hauue chosen but received it as the rest of your challes coun-  
sels, and feasted vpon it with my daily meditation, but being  
so disorderly patcht, I can neither believe it is yours, nor  
affect that which is so vncomely. You haue sent mee delicate  
gilt

gilt pills, where though the gold bee more then the poison yet is this poison enough to confound. Therfore as much as with safety I may retaine (for your ancient friendship) I will keepe and study, the rest pardon me to returne you, not out of malice to your wish, but grieve at your folly, you haue told me so well the excellency of my losse, that it were madnesse in me to turne into a ſecond hazard, & how euer you would take from widdowes the bliſſe of remembrance, yet deare Sir know that I can never forget this maxime, that the death of a good husband ought not to take awaie the loue of a chaste wife. To conclude, what you desire is not in my power to grant, for all my loue I haue ſent with him to the graue, whom I haue lost: & to hold me without that portion, were to grasp a cloud that would bring forth a centaur, yet from thence ſhould either fate or my follies deliuer it, I coulde not finde any moze worthy then your ſelue to keepe it: but the firſt is too conſtant, and the latter (I hope) ſhall never ſo farr rule in me: Therfore being as you were, a chaste counſellor, and no ſeducer, you ſhall finde me, as you haue done, a faithfull cabinet full of your goodneſſe.

E.L.



Another to the ſame purpoſe

Much honoured Mistris.

**T**he never ceaſing ſtreame of your gratiouſe kindneſſe hath by the often thinking on their due deſeruingſ proſoundly imboſomed themſelves in my gratefull affection, which no courſe of tedious time canne extenuate, nor the longest abſence by diſtance haue power to diſminiſh. But oh moſt kind meriter of all reſpect, whose good will I estimate as my greateſt enrichment, although the conſigne requitall of ſuch your rare courtesies lye not in the copie and

and p[re]cincts of my pa[re] power, whose tenacity is not able to pay such an exceeding tribute: yet how willing my mind is, and how inextinguishable my desires, this illiterate C[on]p[re]t[er] will testify, which denoyd of elegancies, yet full straight with the b[ea]s[ed] prosecution of my loue, promiseth the employmēt of my uttermost powers in all serviceable endeaours, if all that I can doe may but destry one mite of your invaluab[le] courtesies Command my service, there is not any thinge so great that I will shrinke, or so small that I will disdaine to effectuate for your sake, having vowed to dye before any word issuing from your lips shall come in vaine.

But least I shoulde detract too much time from your more serious affaires, in all humility I take my leave.

Yours unfainedly.

P.Q.

Her Answer.

Though I am far from vanity to esteem my selfe too[...] this of the stile of beauty, yet I see not how to excuse your knister opinion, that would thereto armer so great an inconveniencie: for it shoules (if things might be ordered by your minde) you would haue beauty and loue to be inseparable companions: oh grosse, oh absurd wish, and most execrable position against beauty and loue. Then any vicious, deformed or beggerly creature, being but conducted by good fortune to the view of some rare Virgin, this vnuorthiness must not onely bee entertained, but her that rather deserved to be h[is]sed away with disdaine, must straight bee made the owner and Lord of her loue: So shall it bee in her power to givē a repulse to the presumption of indigne suitors, or to make free election of a deserving personage to honour him with her gracious fauour.

W<sup>o</sup>g

But I hope sir, being thus clearly convinced, you will confess and make recantation of your error, I rest as I have reason.

Yours not to vse.

S.M.



## A Letter of discontent after the falling out of Louers.

Most discourteous and painted friend.

IT is the custome of Louers after the breach of their league and amity, to send backe those gracieutes, which formerly passed as tokenes of their naturall affections: you haue taken vp the fashion, and belene me I abhorre any longer to haue nearenesse with one of your qualifikation, who for meere trifles can dissolve the knot of friendship, and shake hands with familiarity. Soz know that your memorie which was sometime deare in my thoughts, is now abhorred seeing that the firmenesse and stability of affection, (then which there is nothing ought by men more religiouly to be obserued) you haue so carelessly brought to anihilation. I may paralell my present condition to the state of the Sunne when pitchy clouds with environing him round about, seeme to extinguish his splendor, but time the perfecter of all terrestriall things, may in due season impart a dulcer correspondent to my hopes, and suitable to my disposition: till when I will scorne the blasts of aduersity, and all those who haing little or no merit, are endowed by the dispensation of the owle eyed goddesse Fortune with large possessions: howsoever if I can finde no better to conuerse and spend my time withall then your selfe, I will carue Momus and for ever hate the society of men: but haing a better opinion of the generallitie, for your part I carthele you with this Ultimum vale and rest,

A stranger. A. B.

G

To

To his angry Mistris

**A**nd the declining of the Sunne brings a generall darknesse and discomfort, so the deficiencie and absence of your shining and gloriouſ fauours hath ouercovered me with clouds of care. But as the Sunnes heavenlye essence by the course of Nature is dailye reuiued, so here I humblye sue that your worted gratiouſ aspect may returne in your countenance, to solace the dolefull heart of your servant with vicissitude of long intermitted alacritis, it will redound to your great commendation, when this world shall vnderſtand that your heare is of ware, not inexorable & of a flinty and adamantine conſtitution, hoping that you will be as ready compassionately to grant as I doe submissively implore the renovation of your loue, I rest, R.S.

**M**y humble duty remembred your Father unto you and my mother, having the opportunity of this beate, I thought good to certifie you of my present being, giuing you to understand that I am, I thanke God and you, in good health, and very well placed here in London, whereto I am in hope to continue my here being to some profitable & good purpose: My Master receyved me in good sorte, and I know nothing that appertaines to such a one as my ſelfe. I trauell you ſhall have joy of me, and after a few years paſſe, I doubt not but ſo to behauē my ſelfe that I ſhall well deserve.

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deserue this good liking that already I haue of my Master, and further credit at his hands and imployment about his busynesse. I hope you and my mother, and all our friends in the country are in good health, I pray you that you will write unto my master as occasion serueth, and thanke him for his good usage: and if you can to remember him with some good conuenient token out of the country. Thus desiring your daily blessings, and with a recommendation of my humble duty unto you both, I take my leaue:

London. Your louing and obedient sonne to command.

R.B.

## A Letter from a husband to his wife.

**G**ood wife, considering the hasty departure from you, and my children, my hope is that you will haue that louing and respectiue care toward them and your family that appertaineth. I haue lost many things rauy by reason of the suddennesse of my iourney, which stand upon your good regard to be ordered, as namely the charge of my seruants, and the disposition of some other affaires and busynesses. You shall note shew your selfe a discret and carefull wife, if in my absence you will take upon you to bee in my place. Regard and consider with your selfe, that seruants are negligent and carelesse, and if the master forget his owne profit, they are as ready as others to share with his gaines. Your painefull attendance to over looke them, shall traine their labours to my using, your desire to kee to them, shall worke their using to my well desiringe. You must now a little forget neighbourhod, and walking for compaines, considering the old proverbe, that when the Cat

is away, the House will goe play: If Master or Dame  
have both continued absence, seruants fall a wakynge, and  
doe what they list. You know good wife, I have now ta-  
ken a great charge of late vpon me, whiche with some care,  
full looking to may turne to good. Let it not bee grieuous  
vnto you, nor thinke it hard that I thus make you parta-  
ker of my charge, as I doe of my profit, for we are yooke-  
fellowes you know, and the charge is equall betwix us  
both to be borne and supported. If as loving mates and  
fellowes we draw forth together, we shall by Gods blessed  
goodnesse see the fruits of our labours: our children shall  
participate with us of our trauells, and God shall prosper  
our endeuours. And howbeit good wife I haue euer found  
you such, as of whose care of my well doing I need haue no  
doubt, yet if by the importance of my charge I bee driven to  
wryte thus much vnto you, thinke that in greate trust of  
your modesty, respect of your loue, and zeale to both our  
goods I haue done the same. And though no distrust re-  
maine of any one about me, yet doe I put you in minde  
what youth by too much sufferaunce and givinge of libertie  
may bee inclined to. This is all I wold, and so much I  
hope as you gladly will hold vnto. Commend me many  
times vnto your selfe, kisse my little ones, and remember  
me, and commend my loue to all our friends. From Rye  
the 3 of Febr: 1635.

Your assured loving husband.

F.G.

Her Answer.

Good husband, I am glad you haue at last remembred  
your selfe by this bearer to wryte vnto me; that haue  
thought of very long vntill I heard from you. I doe greatly  
rejoyce at the good & prosperous successe of your journey,

and

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and chiefly, that you haue endured your trauell so well, be-  
ing in so good pleight and strength of body, as I understand  
you are by your Letter. We are much beholden vnto our  
good friends in the country that haue givien you so great &  
good entertainment, and I pray you heartily commend me  
unto them. Your busynesse here goeth very well, and your  
seruants both dutifull and diligent about their affaires, and  
we haue no want but your presence, which if you would  
hasten hitherward, it were a comfort vnto us all to see you,  
hauing beene as to me it seemeth, very long absent. But  
Master Prince, and his friends where you are, blessh you so  
kindly, that I thinke you cannot well tell how to winde  
your selfe out from your good company. Yet good husband  
remember that at last you must come home, and the sooner  
the better. I referre all to your good discretion: & so com-  
mend me most heartily unto you. From London,

Your euer louing and  
loyall wife.

R.G.

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## A Letter from one kinsman to another in London or any other place.

**M**y good Cousin, I am glad to heare of your good pre-  
sident in London, and that, as I heare by your fa-  
ther and mother, you are so well placed there, and with so  
good a Master. It is no little comfort to me to understand  
that you doe so resolutely and with so good a minde dispose  
your selfe to your busynesse, which I gladly wish you would  
continuall. You must now remember, that your friends with  
great care, charge and industry haue brought you vp, and  
that their intent and meaning therin was, that in expec-  
tation whereof they should haue joy and comfort of you in

G.3

your

your elder yeates : for which as you have now bneathed your selfe to this place of seruite, to wast you for any feare of hard usage, bitternes of speech, or other mistike of taunts or rebukes, make account to endure and continue. It may bee, being yet unacquainted with the customes and usage of London, you doe now thinke well of that which hereafter may turne to discontentment. But good cozen, so bxe it you have no want of things needfull and necessary, frame your selfe to so beare all those crosse matters what soever, and gine your selfe wholly on Gods name, to the benefit of your service, you shall therin want no helpe furtherance or incuragement on my part, and if you performe it well and honestly, you shall not want when time serveth for an hundred pound or two, if in the meane space I may see your good care of your Misters busynesse, & please your Misters for therin you shall the better please your Master. Your friends are all well. Who rejoycing in that already they see you so well behayed, doe daily pray to God to prosper & blesse you : and thus with my hearty commendations I bid you farewell Farndon this 18 of May 1635.

Your louing kinsman,

E.G.

A Letter to request the borrowing of an hundred Pounds.

SI R, I am bold in my great necessitie, vnder assurance of your forwardeesse to doe me good, to intreat your speciall aide & furtherance in two things, the one whereof is to lende me of your loued fauours one hundred pounds, the other this bearer shall instruct you in, both which concern in your kind and friendly care of my wealthe. I am of opinion none other then your selfe can fit the occasion better,

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better, And truly such is the force of imprisonment, as con-  
trarie to that you haue wontedly knowne in mee, my un-  
derstanding is quite decayed, and soye weare with want  
of liberty, and where the spirits are so disturbed, it much  
needes follow, the memorie must needes sound nothing but  
discoyd. In fine, Sir, it is for you to doe mee good, and to  
make me by this onely action for euer beholden vnto you,  
wherein if I may so far forth presume of your fidelity, as-  
sure your selfe if euer God givē me liberty to none so much  
as you shall I be yoked in courtesie. Good master I. A. the  
matter hereof requireth some haste, whereto I most hear-  
tily intreat you faile me not.

Fare yee well this 18. of December. 1635.

Your imprisoned friend,

I.S.

The Answer.

God Master I.S. needesse it were you should entreat  
me in that whereto you haue found me most willing,  
sleight with small persuasion you may induce to a far  
greater purpose then what in your last letter is required,  
the messenger I haue appointed to returns againe to my  
chamber to morrow morning, at which time I will not  
faile to send you your desired summe: for the other, hard  
will it be for me to accomplish that wherin your selfe haue  
so vnperfect, for that the bullest conceit forged from the  
most distēpered of your imagination cannot but sound far  
better then the ripell of my inventions any way are  
able to deliver. Nevertheless such as it is, or (by dislike of  
your owne) you haue will to account of; that will I pre-  
pare to your view, and put forward to your good spēde,  
thinking it better by the delivery of a grosse device to satis-  
fie the demand of a friend, then by the concealing the sim-  
plicity therof, to be reputed uncurteous. In conclusion,

it

it is lawfull for you to use me to the uttermost, and fittest  
to your confirmed league of amittie, that in whatsoeuer  
you should imploy me; wherein I desire you concerne no  
more then such as I intend to become, & you shall assuredly  
 finde me,

Your faithfull friend.

I.P.

A Letter to his frind for breach of promise.

*ia B*  
*B*  
*B*

**M**aster Jackson, I haue abstained hitherto to come or  
send unto you, partly being wearied with importu-  
nity, for that I thought, now two monthes being passed,  
I might in this space haue found a time conuenient where-  
in to haue end ed with you. Having taken this cause in  
hand, I would (as in good reason I thought it fit) you  
should determinis with me vpon some conclusions wheron  
to rest assured, I might thenceforth know whereso to trust  
and neither waste labour in comming to so small purpose,  
nor hinder my certaine busynesse by the unsteady stay of  
your affaires, as already I haue done. We haue talked  
many times, and set downe certaine limits, but to slender  
effects, as I neither know when to demand, nor you how to  
satisfie. So that depending vpon shadowes, I haue passed  
my time to small benefit, and you haue gone forward to  
little purpose. I doe pray you therefore that such meaning  
may assure vs, as already betwene us hath bene per-  
formed. To delay me thus with nilles, as I thinke is farre  
from a Gentleman, see soe I suppose you not intend it con-  
sidering how many wayes thereby I am and shall be hin-  
dered. This therefore may be the certaine meanes to satis-  
fie us both, that you will (as on Fryday last you promised)  
come & see the agrement betwene us performed, where-

of

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of I pray you advertise your full resolution by this bearer:  
And so I bid you heartily farewell.

Arthingworth,  
May 7. 1635.

Your ever assured  
louing friend.

W.M.

## The Answer.

**G**od master W. M. my breach of promise in not having visited you with deserved requitall sithence my departure may breed suspicion & doubt of unthankfulness, but I hope, and by hope presume, that of your owne good disposition towards all your acquaintance, you will yeld unto an approued tryall before you condemne. For my part if I should not owe unto you all honest minde & fidelite, I should much contrary your great courtesie, & deservedly incurre the shame of ingratitude. You know that having strayed as I have done out of the limits of a controuled rule, & displeased so much thereby, as my case hath bewrayed unto you, those whom by nature and duty I ought to be alwed unto, It is reason that by the moze strict obseruance, I make amends for the residue. The day appointed I will not faile to meet to view the writings, and to make some conclusion to your best satisfaction. Wherin you shall perceine the honest minde of a Gentleman. My father it saemeth, though not yet by mee, hath otherwiss understood how much I stand yoaked (in all friendly league of amity) unto you, and thinketh himselfe for all his sonnes unthankfulness, somewhat therein to be tied unto you. His meaning is, one of these dates to intreat your pains hitherward. But however deserts bee noted, or care by nature doth binds, assure your selfe, whilst life leadeth along this earthly course: I am and will be also yours most unfainedly and most in-

V

firely,

truly. To whom and to your good bedfellow, I most heartily and often commend me: Thindon June 28. 1635.

Remaining your much<sup>dear</sup> friend  
in all good affection, I.R.



To his friend a Mercer.

Dear Sir, many salutations, &c. As my occasions fall out I still presume to trouble you, grounding my boldnesse upon the hope of your loue and good will, I request you to send me as much blacke Wattin as will make me a suit. I am your debto<sup>r</sup> already, beside in good will and loue, a small summe, which for that it hath beeene long detained, you may conjecture it to bee desperate: yet on my credit it is as sure as any money in your purse: My intent being honest, but my Estate not such as at this time I can satisfie: next Terme I expect the plenty of my purse will bee so profuse that God permitting, without fail for these and the old debt you shall bee fully discharged. Acknowledging my selfe beholden, I rest,

Your thankfull friend, R.G.



A Letter to an vnfaythfull friend.

Sir, I haue ever been so loath to thinke ill of you that I scarce allow mine owne witnessesse against you, or those strong presumptions that make me thinke you meane to keepe no promises nor no friends: If you will needs haue it so, let our acquaintance now grow sickly, and dye privatly lest I be blamed for trasting, and you for deceiuing so great a knell. For since our loue is grown into so desperate

a Leshargie, I will not wake it, for I had rather it should passe away in a trance, and the remembrance thereof never hereafter to be mentioned. What your friendship was I cannot tell, but I am to the view it was fit for greater courtesies then I required: what mine owne was, judge when you haue most neede of a friend. Neither will I tell you what a sea of misfortune your breach of promises hath let in vpon me: but I le bid you now and euer fare-well, and with my letter conclude all rites of loue betwixt you and me, and rest,

No longer your friend. I.B.



A Letter for admittance into seruice.

HOnourable Sir, I haue vuer bene so addicte to fol-hlow you, that in mine owne opinion I am an old retainer of yours: so I am within a degré of a household seruant, which is all the promotion that by the intercession of this Letter I shrieve to come to. But I see so many steps directed that way, that I perhaps may come too late, yet I hope your number is not full, though it be great, and I suppose all are not invited that goe: but some intrude. I will take it for extreame bound y to be admitted within your gates: what I doe is prest by no necessity, but to save my longing, and to satisfie my desires, which a farre off haue euer serued you. Once I thought to haue moued this suit by friends, but that way I was afraid it might miscarry: and I was not very willing it shoulde succeed, being loath to intangle my selfe in obligations, to other men, when I was to passe my selfe ouer unto you, so I thought best to write, for to speake had bene too bold. So in hope at the least of a pardon, I rest as farre as in my selfes,

Your humble seruant,

B.I.

To his Love vpon a long and fruitlesse affection.

*By the Author of the*  
**I**t is the propertie of no man to be faine-hearted souldier for receiving a repulse, or to retire from assault and to give ouer his enterprise: when every one ought to vse constant perseveriance, that he may worke the accomplishment of his desires. The long vnsuccesfullnesse of my suit hath not made me weary of your service, though since I first fell in love with you (D might the examples incite you no longer to regard your affection) the Sunne hath gone about the world, and giuen a new life to all things which the tempestuous winter had left forlorne: the toyfull Merchant hath made a rich returne and the laborious husband man hath cramm'd his barnes with the plenteous croppe of the ever fruitfull earth: Every one hath his hope, onely my selfe more unfortunate then all the rest, in the revolution of time hath not had any successe. I am yet to see perelesse in misfortune: it rests in you with the sympathie of affection to make me perelesse in felicity, of which I will never despair, there being no heart that is more infinitely affected toward you then the heart of

Your truest seruant E. L.



To his sweet heart in the Country.

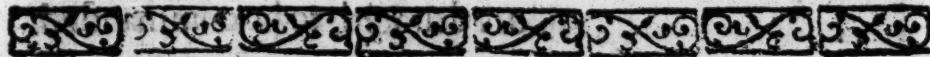
Sole mistris of my affection.

**T**hough in London where I now am many singular beauties are daily obvious to my sight, yet I beseech you not to charge my vnfained lines with flattery, if in the just collaudation of your alone unparalleld pulchritude I prefer your unmatchable forme before the rarest of their compositions: Their sarmosities come as so shott of yours

# Cupids Messenger. 57

as the splendor of the twinkling Stars come short of the all-enlightning radiance of the Sun beames, and they all are as far your inferiors in the ravishing gifts of Nature, as the vissended pipple. (prior to the worth of the most high prized Carbuncle. To which outward endowments when I revolve in my mind, and no houre passeth without commemoration of your perfections) how sweetly you haue united al internall graces, then am I distractes with griefe for my absence, and though my unrestrained mind bee inseparably with you, yet I curse the distance of place which deprives mee of all comfort, because it distoynes mee from your presence, whch till I enjoy, all joy is banished out of my brest, and I haue given griefe a free dominion in mee, I cannot say I rest, but I remaine,

Your entire vassall, I.S.



## A Young mans Letter to his enamoured Mistris.

Fairest of a Thousand:

If you were not absolute, I would not be thus resolute :  
I onely to loue you whom I hold onely worthy louing; your beautie tells mine eye, and your kindenesse persuades my heart of your goodnesse, for, if you were proud, I should disdaine you, and if you were not faire, I would not affect you, now, if you know the one true in your selfe, believe the other in me, and wrong not your selfe, in not doing me right: Modesty and nicenesse are two, and delays are the hindrances of happiness: to urge your patience with importunity I will not, and yet to give over my suit I cannot : and therefore knowing your judgement sufficient to understand your owne good, I hope to finde your disposition not inclinde to hurt him, who remaineth,

Yours as you will, and  
when you will, T.D.

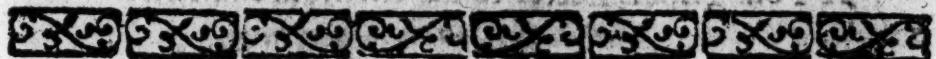
# Cupids Messenger.

Her kinde answer.

**M**y worthy friend, he... I haue loued you, was  
from ths first instant... you... beheld you: how much I  
doe loue you, I would I could tell you: how dearely I will  
loue you, my best endeauors shall truly make knowne unto  
you: & if vnder heauen I may finde such happinesse on the  
earth as to be regarded in your fauour, I will thinke it idle  
that figures earthly felicitie: for your excellencie, being al-  
most without exception let my loue bee without comparison  
and if trath may haue beliefe, let my affection bee without  
suspicion: and as you haue won my heart with your eyes,  
make it happy with your hands, so hoping that so sweet an  
aspect can haue no sorowenesse in spirit, in the hope of your  
kinde answer, I rest,

Yours deuoted, to be commanded.

A.B.



A Letter of request.

**K**inde friend: I would entreat a kinnesse, but for feare  
of a deniall not out of mine olde deserts, but rather  
your disposition, which I doubt is too neare the nature of  
the world, rather to grant then to grattie: excuses are more  
trials of wiſ then truthe, & a faſthuſt heart hath no ſtop in  
loue, and therefore, that I may not haue cauſe to wrong  
my ſelfe in my assured conuincion of your worth, doe right  
to your ſelfe in the god of that performance, that, without  
parenthetis may conclude in a full poynſt of kinnesse. The  
ſubſtance of my ſuit I haue ſent you by word of mouth, be-  
cause my hand-writing ſhall not witneſſe my unhappinesſe  
if my hope ſhould faile the expection of my affection, in  
whiche without greater care of the contrary, I rest,

Yours as you know, D.S. A

# Cupids Messenger.

A Letter of discontent, upon a deniall of a request.

My small friend,

I thanke you for nothing more, then that I haue nothing to thanke you for, wherein you rather considered what I am, then your selfe shoulde be: pardon my folly, in presump-  
ming aboue knowledge, and beleue me no more if I fall  
into the like errore of opinion: you willed me to make ac-  
count of your uttermost power, in my god: It may bee it  
was in wishes, which are easilly requited, but when they  
are void of effects, they are but troubles to reason: I can-  
not spell without Letters, nor understand words without  
substance, therefore loath to be tedious, when I haue ba-  
willingly beeorne troublesome, I pray you let complements  
be without cost, so shall kindnesse continue in that conditi-  
on of judgement that shall make me alwayes ready to re-  
quite your deniall of my request as I finde cause.

Your friend to command, R.D.



To a Court Lady.

If lone could dissemble, patience could haue no passion,  
but truth is so tyed to affection, that as a sound limb it  
cannot halt. If you aske the reason of my affection, looke  
into the excellency of your owne worth, and then if there  
bee any extreame, take it in the best part, which groweth  
from your selfe: for such is my judgement of your deser-  
ving, as can be answered in nothing but in admiring: for  
surely, hee must bee either very dim sighted that doth not  
preferre your beauty to all shadowes, or dull witted that  
understands not the honour of your worthinesse. Give me  
leaues then, out of the sight of my best sense, and sense of my  
best

the last and  
the only  
game I  
not to play

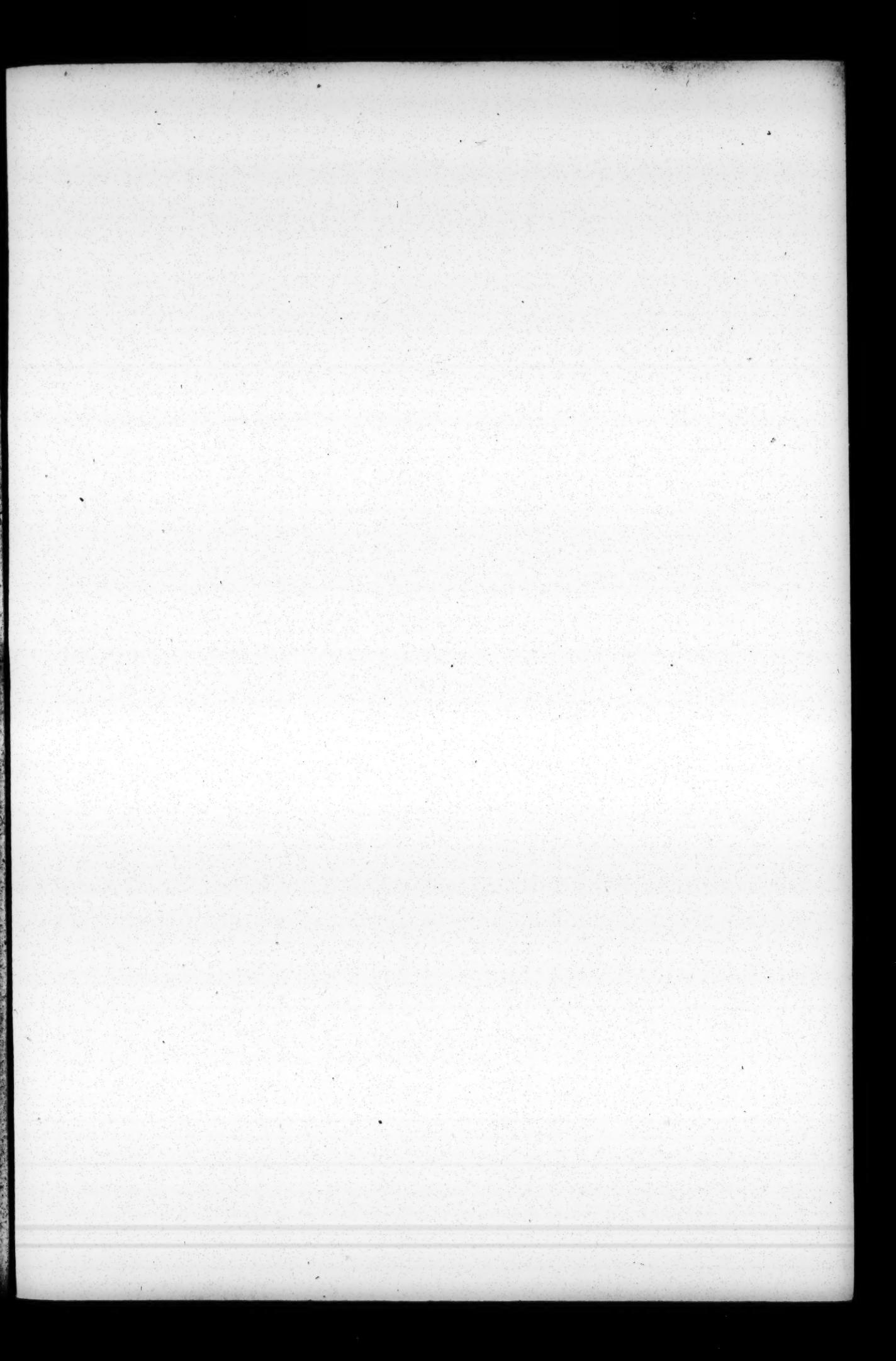
You will be the one to hit the hot  
button. **GC.**

### Herkomst en oorsprong van de Antwerpen

**Yours wholly and entirely to buy**  
**—GROUNDSIDE, INC.**



# FINIS.



Well right, to deserv my service for your commandes, that  
may give a happiness to your employmēt and content  
Complements are but Court farrions, let plaine truth  
have such acceptance in you, as that suspcion may  
not wrong a true affection, saying I comen to you,

Yours all, or thine owne not aall  
I.G.

### Her complementall Answer.

**V**hat would I doe to finde your affection, holding  
but better beates my happiness but the your love : if  
franchise would please you in your affaires, I would reu-  
rest but to your fauour : if grēt might be greatly accepted,  
I would give you my selfe for your loue : If paticle might  
move you, I mowld lay before you my passione if my death  
might onely answer your desire, I boordēt of loue to per-  
pare of your comfort: but loue being a spirit of that nature  
that onely is pleased in being himselfe, I mowld leave all my  
hopes to that happy hōur, wherēin he may in your eyes, cast  
those blessed beames of fauour, vpon the faid of my heart,  
that may make me in the infingible bond of devoted ser-  
vice to the last perioo of my life,

Yours wholly and onely to be  
Commanded, E.N.



*FINIS.*



